CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (original) A method for producing hydrogen by reacting amorphous silicon with water.

2. (original) A method for producing hydrogen by reacting amorphous silicon with an alcohol.

3. (original) A method for producing hydrogen by reacting amorphous silicon with a carboxylic acid.

4. (currently amended) The method according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein black chemically uncovered amorphous silicon is used.

5. (currently amended) The method according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 2, ~~characterized in that it is~~ carried out at ambient temperature.

6. (currently amended) The method according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein brown chemically covered amorphous silicon is used.

7. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 6, ~~characterized in that the reactivity (reaction temperature)~~ wherein

the reaction temperature of the brown amorphous silicon is controlled by ~~control~~ selection of the chemical covering of the same.

8. (currently amended) The method according to claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the compounds $Si(OR)_4$, wherein R means an ~~organic radical, especially~~ alkyl radical ~~or carboxylic acid radical~~, ~~generate(~~ generated during the hydrogen production with amorphous silicon and an alcohol ~~or with a carboxylic acid~~ are converted into SiO_2 + HOR by hydrolysis.

9. (New) The method according to claim 7 wherein the chemical covering on the brown amorphous silicon is ammonia.

10. (New) A method for producing hydrogen, which comprises the steps of:

(a) reacting amorphous silicon with an alcohol at ambient temperature using either black chemically uncovered amorphous silicon or brown chemically covered amorphous silicon to obtain molecular hydrogen and $Si(OR)_4$ wherein R is alkyl; and

(b) hydrolyzing the $Si(OR)_4$ to recover the alcohol and SiO_2.

11. (New) The method for producing hydrogen defined in claim 10 wherein the alcohol is methanol or ethanol.